



2/16/05

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 102 (Cropsey)

SB 102 would rename the Ionia Maximum Correctional Facility, as the Jack Welborn Correctional Facility. Jack Welborn is well known in Michigan by those who work in, or are familiar with, the State's correctional system. From 1986 to 1994, when he retired from the Michigan Senate, Welborn was the chairperson of various Senate committees that considered legislation regarding the Department of Corrections, and corrections issues in general.

- SB 102 was passed for the day.

SB 146 (BERNERO)

SB 146 would amend the Public Health Code to delete a provision authorizing a disciplinary subcommittee to impose sanctions on a pharmacist for employing the mail to sell, distribute, or deliver a drug that requires a prescription when the prescription for the drug is received by mail. Since the beginning of fiscal year 2004-05, mail-order pharmacies have been able to contract with the State to provide prescription drugs for the Medicaid program. Reportedly, consumers often can receive medication from mail-order pharmacies at a significant discount--sometimes, more than 50%--off the price at a traditional retail pharmacy. The Public Health Code, however, authorizes administrative sanctions against a pharmacist who uses the mail to fill prescriptions that have been received by mail.

Support: UAW, MI Manufacturers Assn., GM, Ford, Chrysler, Dykema Gossett, State Employees Retirees Assn., MAHP, MMF, MHPA, BCBSM, MEA, MI Health Purchasers Coalition, MI Building and Construction Trades, AARP, DCH, MMA, Caremart, Medco, St. John's Health, Visteon – SB 146 levels the playing field, is more convenient for Michigan citizens, keeps healthcare money in Michigan, can increase Mi business and tax revenue, and could increase competition and lower costs

Oppose: Pharmacists Assn. – without a changes to allow pharmacies to use centralized filling and greater economies of scale, simply taking the penalties off using mail-order could actually hurt business.

- SB 146 passed [RC 9: 31 yes, 5 no]

THIRD READING

SB 69 (Birkholz)

SB 69 would include suspended pupils among those permitted to attend strict discipline academies. Suspended pupils who had been referred to the academy by the school and placed there by the pupil's parent or guardian would be allowed to attend these academies. Under current law, expelled pupils can enroll in strict discipline academies, charter schools that are allowed to limit their enrollment to these pupils. The bill would also allow suspended pupils to be enrolled. Many times, students are suspended for the duration of the school year and may not have other educational opportunities available to them.

- SB 69 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 93 (Garcia)

SB 93 would require the Michigan Department of Education, for the 2008-2009 school year and succeeding school years, to develop and make available to school districts and public school academies one or more model character development programs that the districts and academies could adopt and implement. A school board or the board of directors of a public school academy would be encouraged to provide a comprehensive character development program for pupils in each grade level it operated. The character development program would have to be similar to the Michigan model for comprehensive school health education character education curriculum, the character counts program, the character first: education series, or the character unlimited program. The character development program also would have to be secular and research-based and have documented effectiveness; teach core ethical values and character qualities such as honesty, fairness, kindness, courtesy, compassion, acceptance, responsibility, respect for self and others, respect for the property of others, and service to others and to the community; and be designed to encourage each pupil to become a responsible, contributing member of society.

- BRATER 1 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- SB 93 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.